

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4663

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USOECD

PASS EB/ORF/FSE FOR RAICHT, OES/NET FOR PROCHNIK,
ERDA FOR SIEVERING AND VANDERRYIN

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: ENRG, OECD
SUBJECT: JUNE 27-29 IEA GOVERNING BOARD - CERD
CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF CERD CHAIRMAN'S NOTE ON
R, D & D ELEMENTS FOR MINISTERIAL MEETING (DOCUMENT
IEA/GB(77)30).
2. DOCUMENT ALSO CONTAINS LENGTHY ANNEX SUMMARIZING
CERD OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES.
3. BEGIN TEXT:

INTRODUCTION -

IN PLANNING FOR THE MINISTERIAL MEETING LATER THIS
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YEAR, IT IS EXPECTED THAT ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOP-
MENT WILL BE AN IMPORTANT TOPIC ON THE AGENDA. THE
PURPOSE OF THIS PAPER IS TO DESCRIBE THE EXPECTED
ELEMENTS IN THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FIELD THAT
WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE MINISTERIAL MEETING. AT
THE 27-28 JUNE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD, THE
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY RESEARCH AND

DEVELOPMENT WILL DESCRIBE CRD PROGRESS, STATUS AND PLANNING AS BACKGROUND CONTEXT. ANNEX I IS AN OUT-LINE OF THE TOPICS TO BE COVERED.

R,D & D ELEMENTS FOR MINISTERIAL MEETING -

AS WE MOVE THROUGH THE REMAINDER OF THIS CENTURY AND INTO THE NEXT, IT IS CLEAR THAT NEW TECHNOLOGIES MUST PLAY AN INCREASING ROLE IF WE ARE TO REDUCE OUR DEPENDENCE ON OIL. RECOGNIZING THAT FACT, THE IEA HAS MADE A GOOD BEGINNING IN RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION (R,D & D). A PROGRAMME TO DEVELOP AN OVERALL ENERGY R,D & D STRATEGY IS WELL UNDERWAY. IT IS POINTING THE WAY TO THE TECHNOLOGIES WHICH CAN HAVE THE GREATEST IMPACT IN THE RELATIVELY NEAR AND LONGER TERM. AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON A PROCEDURE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE ADEQUACY OF NATIONAL R,D & D PROGRAMMES. EIGHTEEN SPECIFIC COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN - SIX IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY CONSERVATION, FIVE IN DEVELOPMENT OF COAL, ONE IN NUCLEAR FISSION ENERGY, FIVE IN SOLAR ENERGY, AND ONE IN FUSION. BUT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE.

TO EFFECTUATE THE BASIC POLICY DIRECTIONS AS SET FORTH IN THE GROUP OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES PAPER (IEA/GB(77)24) INsofar AS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT UNCLASSIFIED

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ARE CONCERNED, THE CRD IS EMBARKING ON SEVERAL NEW INITIATIVES, BUILDING ON THE SOLID ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST. THE NEW INITIATIVES ARE AIMED AT MAXIMIZING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE NATIONAL PROGRAMMES TO DEVELOP ALTERNATIVE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES AND INCREASING THE DEGREE OF INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION.

() WE WILL WORK TO ESTABLISH TARGETS FOR THE CONTRIBUTION THAT NEW TECHNOLOGIES SHOULD BE EXPECTED TO MAKE TO OUR ENERGY BALANCES IN 1985 AND BEYOND.

(2) AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE HAS BEEN REACHED TO WORK TOWARD CO-ORDINATED PLANNING OF NATIONAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN EACH OF THE IMPORTANT AREAS OF NEW ENERGY TECHNOLOGY IN ORDER TO INTERMESH AS

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EFFECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE THE VARIOUS NATIONAL PROGRAMMES. AS A FIRST STEP, A SPECIFIC AGREEMENT BETWEEN A LIMITED NUMBER OF COUNTRIES ACTIVE IN THE FIELD OF COAL LIQUEFACTION, IS EXPECTED TO BE REACHED PRIOR TO THE MINISTERIAL MEETING.

(3) REVIEWS OF NATIONAL R & D PROGRAMMES WILL BE INITIATED TO EVALUATE THE ADEQUACY OF NATIONAL EFFORTS TO DEVELOP NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND FACILITATE THEIR INTRODUCTION TO PRACTICAL USE.

(4) FOUR ADDITIONAL MAJOR HARDWARE PROJECTS ARE IN ACTIVE NEGOTIATION AND ARE TARGETED FOR EXECUTION BY THE TIME OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETING. THESE PROJECTS ARE:

A. JOINT FUNDING OF A LOW CALORIFIC VALUE COAL GASIFICATION PLANT TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN GERMANY.

B. JOINT FUNDING OF A PILOT PLANT, TO BE CON-
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STRUCTURED IN THE U.S. TO REFINE THE LIQUID HYDROCARBON FUEL PRODUCED FROM EXPERIMENTAL COAL LIQUEFACTION PLANTS.

C. JOINT FUNDING OF THE PRELIMINARY DESIGN,
INTENDED TO LEAD TO CONSTRUCTION, OF TWO 500 KWE
EXPERIMENTAL SOLAR ELECTRIC POWER PLANTS IN SPAIN.

D. THE JOINT PLANNING AND AGREEMENT ON CON-
STRUCTION OF SEVERAL LARGE WIND POWER MACHINES (OF
THE ORDER OF 1MWE) IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES.

(5) AN ADDITIONAL JOINTLY FUNDED PROJECT TO
EXAMINE ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO EXTRACTING GEO-
THERMAL ENERGY FROM WIDESPREAD SUBTERRANEAN DEPOSITS
OF "DRY HOT ROCK" IS CONTEMPLATED WHICH MAY LEAD TO
FURTHER EXPERIMENTAL PLANTS.

(6) A NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL TASK-SHARING AND
SMALLER SCALE EXPERIMENTAL PROJECTS ARE ALSO UNDER
DISCUSSION IN ENERGY CONSERVATION, COAL COMBUSTION
AND CONVERSION, FUSION, WIND ENERGY, BIOMASS CONVER-
SION, AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO LEAD
TO COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS OVER THE COMING MONTHS.

DESPITE GOOD PROGRESS HOWEVER, THERE ARE PROBLEMS
STANDING IN THE WAY OF FULL ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR AIMS
TO ASSURE THE FULLEST POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTION OF NEW
TECHNOLOGIES. MINISTERIAL ATTENTION IS NECESSARY
BOTH COLLECTIVELY AND NATIONALLY TO THE FOLLOWING
ISSUES:

A. SOME MEMBER COUNTRIES HAVE VERY LIMITED
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PROGRAMMES OF ENERGY R & D. RIGOROUS AND CONTINUOUS
ATTENTION IS NEEDED TO ASSURE THAT EACH MEMBER COUNTRY
IS DOING ITS FAIR SHARE.

B. DESPITE THE BENEFITS TO ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES
OF PARTICIPATING IN JOINT HARDWARE PROJECTS,
PARTICIPATION SO FAR HAS BEEN LIMITED TO ONLY A FEW
COUNTRIES.

C. ADDITIONAL MANAGEMENT ATTENTION IS NEEDED TO
ENSURE THAT NATIONAL TECHNICAL LEVEL PROGRAMME OFFIC-
IALS RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL COL-
LABORATION IN CONDUCTING NATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND IN
SPECIFIC PROJECT ACTIVITIES.

D. IN THE IMPORTANT AREA OF LONG-TERM DISPOSAL
OF HIGH LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE, THERE IS WIDESPREAD
RECOGNITION OF THE POTENTIAL VALUE OF A SET OF DEMON-
STRATION DISPOSAL PROJECTS IN SEVERAL MEMBER COUNTRIES.

WHILE DISCUSSION OF SUCH A PROJECT IS UNDERWAY, ADDITIONAL ATTENTION COULD SERVE TO SPEED AGREEMENT IN THIS AREA. END TEXT
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